



ARIZONA STATE SENATE
Fifty-Second Legislature, Second Regular Session

FACT SHEET FOR H.B. 2255

service animals; licensing; fee waiver

Purpose

Extends the exemption from paying a licensing fee for a service animal to include service animal trainers.

Background

Current statute conforms to the Americans with Disabilities Act requirements and defines *service animal* as any dog or miniature horse that is trained to perform work or tasks to benefit an individual with a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual or other mental disability. Any person or entity that violates the rights of individuals who use service animals is guilty of a class 2 misdemeanor (A.R.S. § 11-1024).

The Board of Supervisors (BOS) in each county is permitted to set a license fee for each dog that is kept, harbored or maintained in this state. Applicants wishing to license a service animal are required to sign a written statement that the dog is a service animal. Persons making false statements are guilty of a petty offense, which is subject to a fine not exceeding \$50 (A.R.S. § 11-1008).

Current statute exempts individuals with a disability using a service animal and individuals using a search or rescue dog from paying a licensing fee for their animal (A.R.S. §§ 9-500.32 and 11-1008).

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

1. Extends the exemption from paying a licensing fee for a service animal to a city, town or BOS to include service animal trainers.
2. Includes an animal that is in training to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability in the requirements and permissions of *service animal*.
3. Makes conforming changes.
4. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

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House Action

CMA	2/1/16	DP	6-0-0-2
3 rd Read	2/17/16		57-3-0

Prepared by Senate Research

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